

31 > 18. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein the comparator depends on descriptions related to Universal Service Ordering Code.

32 19. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein the apparatus has a single user interface.

33 21. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in Claim 20 wherein the computer has at least ten times more memory capacity and at least ten times higher computation speed than the apparatus.

REMARKS

Applicants presented Claims 1 through 23 for examination. In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner has rejected all of the Claims.

Applicants greatly appreciate the Examiner's detailed and meticulous comments in the Office Action to the above-identified application. Because of the care that the Examiner has exhibited in the Office Action, Applicants have been able to fully appreciate and understand the Examiner's reasons and grounds for the rejections. For the reasons to be stated below, however, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections of the claims.

By this amendment, Applicants have enclosed a Petition For Extension Of Time UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for extending the time to respond up to and including today, May 6, 2003; enclosed a Change of Power of Attorney Form; canceled claims 1-12, and 15; and amended claims 13, 14, 17, 18, 19 and 21. Accordingly, claims 13, 14 and 16-23 are now in the application.

Applicants believe that no new matter has been introduced by the amendment.

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101, and 35 U.S.C. 112. Applicants have deleted those claims in order to expedite the prosecution of this Application and to facilitate early issuance.

Claims 13-23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. While Applicants do not necessarily concede that the § 112 rejection was proper, it is believed that the cancellation of claim 15, and the amendments to Claims 13, 14, 17, 18, 19 and 21 serve to remedy the grounds for the Examiner's reservations.

Claim 13 has been amended to more explicitly point out that the billing correction process depends on (a) the reseller's internal billing information regarding charges of the telephone service for the customer (previously in Claim 15); (b) an accessor configured to identify a portion of the accessed wholesale billing data for subsequent data manipulation; (inherent in original Claim 13) (c) a generator configured to generate tabulated data from the identified portion of the accessed wholesale billing data, through data manipulation; (inherent in original Claim 13); (d) a comparator configured to compare the tabulated data with the reseller's internal billing information (previously in Claim 15); and (e) the tabulated data not in EBCDIC data format and the wholesale billing data in EBCDIC data format (previously in Claim 19). Claim 13 has also been amended to state that based on a record from the telephone company, the accessor identifies the portion of the accessed data. One support for this amendment can be found, for example, on page 10, lines 1-8, of the specification.

For stylistic preferences, dependency correction, or form improvements of the claims, Claim 14 has been amended to state that the accessor is also configured to transform the identified portion of the accessed wholesale billing data from one data format to another data format; and to re-state that the generator is also configured to take into consideration at least a user-preference to generate the tabulated data. Similarly, Claim 17 has been amended to remove the words, "such that". Claim 18 has been amended to correct the dependency from Claim 17 to Claim 13. Finally, Claims 19 and 21 have been amended to delete limitations that have now been moved into their independent Claim 13.

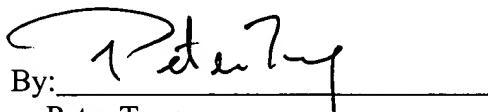
The references cited by the Examiners have been carefully considered. However, since they have not been applied against any of the claims and do not appear properly applicable thereto, no further mention thereof will be made.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested and an early notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner, upon reexamination, determines that an action other than an allowance is appropriate, the Examiner is requested and authorized to telephone Applicant's attorney prior to taking such action, if the Examiner feels that such a telephone call will advance the prosecution of the present application.

Dated: May 6, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION INDICATING CHANGES MADE

13. (Once Amended) A data management apparatus to more correctly bill a customer of a reseller of telephone service, based on wholesale billing data of a telephone company and the reseller's internal billing information regarding charges of the telephone service for the customer, the system comprising:

an accessor configured to access a very small part of the wholesale billing data, and to identify, based on a record from the telephone company, [exclude] a portion of the accessed [information from] wholesale billing data for subsequent data manipulation; [and]

a generator configured to generate tabulated data from [the un-excluded data in] the identified portion of the accessed [information] wholesale billing data, through data manipulation; and

a comparator configured to compare the tabulated data with the reseller's internal billing information so as to correctly bill the customer;

wherein the tabulated data is not in EBCDIC data format and the wholesale billing data is in EBCDIC data format

[such that the tabulated data and the wholesale billing data are in two different data formats].

14. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein:

the accessor is also configured to transform the [un-excluded] identified portion of the accessed wholesale billing data from one data format to another data format; and

the generator is also configured to [generate based on] take into consideration at least a user-preference to generate the tabulated data.

17. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in Claim 16 wherein:

the monthly recurring charge data includes billing telephone numbers and station numbers;

the usage summary includes billing telephone numbers; [and]

the toll usage details include station numbers; and

[such that] the usage summary can be linked to the toll usage details through the monthly recurring charge data.

18. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in Claim [17] 13 wherein the comparator depends on descriptions related to Universal Service Ordering Code.

19. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein[:]
the apparatus has a single user interface[; and
the tabulated data is not in EBCDIC data format and the wholesale billing data is in EBCDIC data format].

21. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in Claim 20 wherein[:]
the computer has at least ten times more memory capacity and at least ten times higher computation speed than the apparatus[; and
the tabulated data is in not in EBCDIC data format and the original wholesale billing data is in EBCDIC data format].